

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /060 R

DRAFTED BY AF/I:LGSHURTLEFF
APPROVED BY AF:LWALKER
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AF:BSALTER

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O 172344Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 180507

FOR MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, OAU, XA

SUBJECT: BILATERAL BRIEFING MATERIALS: OAU COM AND SUMMIT

REF: KHARTOUM 3144, 3143, 3159, ETC., STATE 177401

1. AS WE NOTED IN THE AF WEEKLY ISSUES (STATE REFTEL), OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (COM) MEETING HAD SETTLED DOWN TO A ROUTINE FOLLOWING INITIAL FIREWORKS. LATEST REPORTS FROM KHARTOUM (REFTELS) INDICATE THAT, WHILE THE DEBATE HAS HEATED UP AGAIN, "MODERATION" PREVAILS IN MARKED CONTRAST TO THE FEBRUARY 1978 COM MEETINGS IN TRIPOLI. OAU RESOLUTIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND PALESTINE ARE AS MILD AS COULD BE EXPECTED, THERE HAS BEEN NO MENTION OF RACISM-ZIONISM LINKAGE, AND COM RESOLUTIONS SUPPORT, RATHER THAN CONDEMN SADAT'S PEACE INITIATIVES.

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2. RENEWED HIGHLY-CHARGED DEBATE WAS GENERATED BY A CONGOLESE-PROPOSAL ON A PAN-AFRICAN MILITARY FORCE. CONGOLESE FOREIGN MINISTER OBENGA OPENED JULY 13 COM SESSION WITH A STRONG ADDRESS CHARGING AFRICAN PARTICIPANTS AT FRANCOPHONE SUMMIT IN PARIS OF "HIGH TREASON" AND FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS OF OAU CHARTER. OBENGA LABELED CONCEPT

OF PAN-AFRICAN FORCE THAT EMERGED FROM SUMMIT AS "AN INSTRUMENT OF DESTRUCTION AND DESTABILIZATION". THIS IGNITED PREDICTABLY STRONG RESPONSE FROM NUMEROUS STATES, INCLUDING GABON AND MAURITIUS. THE RESULT WAS A COM RECOMMENDATION THAT QUESTION OF PAN-AFRICAN FORCE BE STUDIED FURTHER, THAT SOVEREIGN RIGHT OF EACH COUNTRY TO APPEAL FOR OUTSIDE MILITARY ASSISTANCE BE PRESERVED, BUT, IN SEEMING CONTRADICTION, THAT THE DEFENSE OF AFRICA IS THE "SOLE" RESPONSIBILITY OF AFRICANS. FRANCE ESCAPED OAU CONDEMNATION, THOUGH ITS ROLE IN AFRICA WAS ATTACKED BY A NUMBER OF MINISTERS IN THIS DEBATE; SOVIET AND CUBAN ACTIVITIES WERE TOUCHED UPON ONLY IN THE BROADEST TERMS.

3. EMBASSY KHARTOUM COMMENTS THAT "MODERATES" ARE EASILY OUTMANEUVERING "RADICALS OR PROGRESSIVE STATES" LEADING SOME JOURNALISTS TO LABEL THE KHARTOUM MEETINGS AS "GISCARD'S SUMMIT". MILITARY INTERVENTION AND THE AFRICAN RESPONSE CONTINUE TO BE THE FOCUS OF THE COM, DESPITE PUBLIC DISCLAIMERS BY OAU OFFICIALS THAT SOUTHERN AFRICA AND STRENGTHENING OF OAU STRUCTURE ARE THE CHIEF CONCERNS.

4. BRUSSELS AND PARIS HAVE A COMPLETE SET OF KHARTOUM REPORTING CABLES. CHRISTOPHER

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APPROVED BY: P: T MILLER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 180507

FOR UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 180507 SENT ACTION PARIS 17 JUL 78

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 180507

FOR MOOSE

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EXPECTED, THERE HAS BEEN NO MENTION OF RACISM-ZIONISM LINKAGE, AND COM RESOLUTIONS SUPPORT, RATHER THAN CONDEMN SADAT'S PEACE INITIATIVES.

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UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Draft Date: 17 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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From: STATE
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780751/aaaabqsb.tel
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TAGS: PORG, XA, FR, OAU
To: PARIS
Type: TE
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